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COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Area of Koermend

EVALUATION [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 6 April 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. On 10 February 1951, 200 blocked-up trucks were lined up in five rows in the area west of the fence around the Batthyani Castle on Rabamelleki Street in Koermend (P 48/C 76). The trucks seemed new; they were painted light green, had two or three axles each, and white-walled tires. About 10 officers and 60 to 70 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen maintaining and cleaning the trucks. Not more than 100 trucks had been parked there between 10 and 13 January. Residents of Koermend were in agreement that 80 to 100 trucks with troops had arrived in Koermend by road from an undetermined direction on a night between 10 and 13 January.

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No armored vehicles were seen in the castle area on the two days. However, it was generally known in Koermend that the Soviet troops there also had armored vehicles.

2.

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3. A Soviet platoon of young soldiers practiced with rifles, light machine guns and mortars at Uescock Ter (square) on the way from the New Barracks to the Old Barracks or Border Guard Barracks. Four officers were observed with the platoon. *

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- 4. Two Soviet armored vehicles heading north were observed on the southern edge of Felsőberkifalu (P 48/C 76) on 9 February.
- 5. Three boxcars with ammunition arrived at the Koermend railroad station from the direction of Szombathely on 15 January. The ammunition was unloaded and taken to the Old Barracks.
- 6. A woman employed at the Szombathely railroad station said that the military trains coming from the direction of Celldömölk (P 48/D 19) passed Szombathely and proceeded toward Nagykanizsa (Y 4/A 26) at a rate of one or two per week. Informant stated definitely that Soviet troops were aboard of the trains. Informant supplied this information between 8 and 12 February, but was unable to specify the exact date of observation.

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Comment. On the basis of previous reports by refugees, a tank regiment of the 17th Gds Nécz Div is believed to be stationed in Koermend. The present report fails to state that tanks were actually in Koermend, but a previous report stated that three trainloads of tanks arrived at the post in the fall of 1950. [REDACTED] The numerous [REDACTED] present report definitely confirm the presence of component units of the 17th Gds Nécz Div in Koermend.

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